

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 17455 201241Z

46

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

IO-10 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 DHA-02 AID-05 DPW-01

SCCT-01 USSS-00 OC-05 CCO-00 CU-02 PC-01 SY-05 A-01

OPR-02 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 TRSE-00 SCA-01

/099 W

----- 130308

O R 201112Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 57

DIA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMCONSUL UDORN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 17455

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, TH

SUBJECT: CURRENT EFFERVESCENCE IN BANGKOK

REF: A) BANGKOK 17371 B) BANGKOK 17077

SUMMARY: IN ADDITION TO RANSACKING OF PRIME MINISTER

KHUKRIT'S RESIDENCE NIGHT OF AUG 19-20 (REF A) THERE

ARE SIX OTHER DISPUTES OF VARIOUS SIZE GOING ON IN

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 17455 201241Z

THAILAND AT PRESENT WHICH MAY ATTRACT SUBSTANTIAL

INTERNATIONAL MEDIA ATTENTION. TOO SOON TO MAKE JUDGMENT ON WHAT THESE DEVELOPMENTS WILL AMOUNT TO MUCH, BUT MISSION WILL MONITOR THEM CLOSELY. END SUMMARY

1. AS OF AUG 20 BANGKOK IS SUFFERING FROM A SERIES OF DISTURBANCES WHICH WILL PROBABLY ATTRACT CONSIDERABLE WIRE SERVICE ATTENTION, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF LAST NIGHT'S RANSACKING OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S RESIDENCE (SEE REFTEL A).

2. NEWS COVERAGE MAY BE EXAGGERATED AND PRESS ACCOUNTS MIGHT ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH INTERRELATIONS AMONG THE FOLLOWING LARGELY UNCONNECTED EVENTS:

A) THE DEMONSTRATIONS IN LAMPHUN PROVINCE AGAINST THE RELEASE OF THE "LAMPHUN 9." (REFTEL B)

B) POLICE DISSATISFACTION IN BANGKOK RELATING TO THE PENDING LEGISLATION THAT WILL REMOVE FROM THE THAI NATIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT (TNPd) THE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE RESULTS OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS.

(SEPTTEL WILL COVER IN SOME DETAIL THE ISSUES AT STAKE IN THIS PROBLEM.)

C) THE RANSACKING OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S HOUSE WHICH APPEARS TO RELATE MORE TO PARA 2 (B) ABOVE THEN TO PARA 2 (A).

D) SITUATION AT THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY, WHERE UP TO 2,000 VOCATIONAL STUDENTS ARE DEMANDING COMPENSATION FROM THE NATIONAL STUDENT CENTER OF THAILAND (NSCT) FOR THE SERIOUS WOUNDING OF A VOCATIONAL STUDENT BY NSCT SECURITY GUARD AT A RECENT NSCT SPONSORED RALLY AT THAMMASAT AUT 15. EMBASSY INFORMED BY POLICE GENERAL SANEH SITTHIPHUN AFTERNOON OF AUG 20 THAT APPROXIMATELY 15 BUSLOADS OF TECHNICAL STUDENTS ARE TRYING TO TAKE OVER THE THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY CAMPUS BY FORCE. THE TECHNICAL STUDENTS ARE ALLEGEDLY THROWING BOMBS AND USING FIREARMS. THAI (DOMESTIC) RADIO REPORTS THAT MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN WOUNDED.

E) THE THAI SECURITY GUARDS' STRIKE AND DEMONSTRATION AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE. THE STRIKING THAI SECURITY GUARDS SURROUNDED GOVERNMENT HOUSE MORNING OF AUG 20. THE STRIKERS BEGAN A FIGHT WITH OTHER THAI SECURITY GUARDS WHO SHOWED UP TO COLLECT BACK PAY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BANGKO 17455 201241Z

GOVERNMENT'S LAST OFFER. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS SUGGEST THAT THE STRIKING SECURITY GUARDS ARE HOLDING THREE UNIDENTIFIED OFFICIALS. POLICE GENERAL SANEH'S OFFICE TELLS US THAT THE SECURITY GUARD SITUATION BECOMING VOLATILE AND, IF CONTINUED, COULD LEAD TO DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY.

F) FOR THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS, TOURIST BUS OPERATORS HAVE BEEN DEMONSTRATING IN FRONT OF THE INTERIOR AND

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRIES AS PART OF A CONFLICT BETWEEN  
COMMERCIAL RIVALS FOR CONTRACTS AND FRANCHISES WHICH THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION IS CURRENTLY LETTING.

G) A FEW FEMALE TEXTILE WORKERS, STRIKING AGAINST DEFENSE  
MINISTRY OPERATED MILLS IN PHITSANULOK PROVINCE, ARE  
HOLDING A SMALL-SCALE DEMONSTRATION IN FRONT OF THE  
DEFENSE MINISTRY.

3. WHILE ALL OF THE ABOVE EVENTS ARE OCCURRING FOR THEIR  
OWN INDIVIDUAL REASONS, THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT ON BOTH THE  
INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA AND ON THE CONSERVATIVE THAI ELITE  
IS ONE OF A DISMAYING DETERIORATION OF "LAW AND ORDER."  
IT IS TOO SOON TO MAKE A JUDGEMENT ON HOW SERIOUS WHETHER ABOVE  
DEVELOPMENTS, INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY, WILL PROVE.  
WE WILL MONITOR THESE DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY.  
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, EXTREMISTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, ARRESTS, LABOR STRIKES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BANGKO17455  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750287-1083  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750833/aaaabcjl.tel  
**Line Count:** 131  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BANGKOK 17371, 75 BANGKOK 17077  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CURRENT EFFERVESCENCE IN BANGKOK  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, TH  
**To:** STATE DIA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006